

AMENDED CLAIMS

[submitted to the International Office on July 18, 2005 (07/18/2005):
original claims 1-32 are replaced by amended claims 1-26 (8 pages)]

Claims:

1. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the holding elements are levers (436) which are arranged at a distance from the thin wall so as to be rotatable around an axis extending perpendicular to the plane of the thin wall.

2. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the holding elements (36, 336) are slides (56) which are arranged so as to be displaceable in a cylinder

(54) that is parallel to the plane of the thin wall and is rectangular in cross section.

3. Latch according to claim 2, characterized in that the slides (56) are held against pressure spring force by a hook arrangement locking between the slides (56) or in the cylinder.

4. Latch according to one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that when the two diametrically oppositely arranged holding elements are loaded to different extents, such as when a sash fastener (52) is used, the holding element (36) upon which the smaller load is exerted is made of flexible plastic such as polyamide and the other holding element (136), upon which the greater load is exerted, is made of rigid material such as metal.

5. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the holding elements (336) are slides comprising a rigid material such as metal which are arranged so as to be displaceable in a cylinder which is parallel to the plane of the thin wall and is rectangular in cross section and are held against pressure spring force (324) by a pin arrangement (92) that is arranged between the slides.

6. Latch according to claim 5, characterized in that the pin arrangement comprises screws (27) that can be screwed (37) into the head part (382, Figs. 31A, B, C).

7. Latch according to claim 6, characterized in that the screws (27) determine the extent of the movement of the holding elements (1136, 29).

8. Latch according to claim 2, 3, 4 or 5, characterized in that the cylinder (54) has a partial dividing wall (358) or undercut or opening edge at which the slides (36, 336, 536, 636) are supported axially by a shoulder or hook.

9. Latch according to one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the latch is a swivel lever latch or a folding lever latch (10) for fastening in an elongated opening (12, 17, 14) or in two shorter rectangular openings (12, 14), wherein one opening (12) receives a lever bearing (66) and the other opening (14) receives a lever stop (170, 70), characterized in that at least one of the openings (12, 14) also serves to receive at least one body part (28, 128, 32) with holding elements according to one of the preceding claims 1 to 8.

10. Latch according to claim 16, wherein the swivel lever latch or folding lever latch has a trough (24) for receiving the actuating lever (22) in a lockable manner, characterized in that the trough (24) forms the head part of one or two body parts with holding elements in the area of the lever bearing such as a drive shaft (66).

11. Latch according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the swivel lever latch or folding lever latch (10) has a trough (24) for receiving the actuating lever (22) in a lockable manner, characterized in that the trough (24) forms the surface (74, 174) behind which the cam of a lever stop (70, 170) engages on the one hand and forms the head part of a body part with holding elements in the area of the lever stop on the other hand.

12. Latch according to claim 9, 10 or 11, characterized in that the holding elements are formed by slides (56) which are held so as to be displaceable and whose movement axis lies perpendicular to the longitudinal extension of the trough.

13. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of

the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the holding elements are formed by a leaf spring (1236, 1336, 1436, 1536, 2336, 2436, 2536), and in that the leaf spring (2536) is held at the body part (108) by means of a projection/recess (106).

14. Latch according to claim 13, characterized in that the leaf spring (1336, 2536) is held in a slot (51, 104) formed by the body part (526, 108).

15. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the holding element (2636, 2736) is formed by a stamped part.

16. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the holding element (2936) is formed by a round bolt.

17. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever

latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the head part has an offset (117) in the region of the holding element (2836) for receiving edge bulges (119).

18. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the latch (3210) has a folding lever (3222) which is supported in the body part (3226) so as to be swivelable around an axis (3221), and in that at least two opposed holding elements (3236) are held in a channel (3239) formed by the body part so as to be displaceable in a direction parallel to the axis (3221).

19. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and

holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the latch (3310) has a folding lever (3322) which is supported in the body part (3326) so as to be swivelable around an axis (3321), and in that at least two pairs of opposed holding elements (3336) are held in channels (3339) formed by the body part so as to be displaceable in a direction perpendicular to the axis (3321).

20. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the latch (3410) has a drive (3515) which is supported in the head part and body part (3426) and carries a sash fastener tongue.

21. Latch according to claim 1, characterized in that the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and head part (24) are injection molded so as to form one piece.

22. Latch according to claim 1, characterized in that the body part and head part are two parts which are screwed (Figs. 31A, B, C; Figs. 89A, B, C), welded (Figs. 72A, 72B, 72C), or snapped together.

23. Latch according to claim 1, 21 or 22, characterized in that supporting elements (46, 48, 94, 96) are provided for supporting the holding elements (36) after the latch is mounted in the thin wall (16), these supporting elements (46, 48, 94, 96) being held or carried

by the body part (26, 28, 30, 32).

24. Latch according to claim 23, characterized in that two holding elements (36) which are arranged diametrically opposite from one another are supported by spring arrangements such as spiral springs (44) and/or wedge arrangements (94) such as conical screws (98).

25. Latch such as a socket wrench latch, swivel lever latch (10), folding lever latch, sash latch for mounting in openings (12, 14) in a thin wall (16, 50), comprising a head part (24) which is to be arranged on one, outer side (18) of the thin wall (16) and which overlaps the outer rim (20) of the opening, and a body part (26, 28, 30, 32) which proceeds from the head part (24) and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements (36) which project from the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, the free end of these holding elements (36) being provided with an inclined surface (38) for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge (40) of the opening of the other, inner side (42) of the thin wall (16), wherein the body part (26, 28, 30, 32) and holding element (36) are two separate parts, characterized in that the holding elements are levers (236) which are arranged at a distance (A) from the thin wall (16) so as to be rotatable around an axis (6) extending parallel to the plane of the thin wall (16).

26. Latch according to one of claims 1 to 25, characterized in that two or more holding elements (3136) are arranged next to one another in each instance.